

City of Davis

Independent Police Auditor Report:

Review of Allegation Against DPD for Failing to
Activate Body-Worn Cameras

July 2023

Independent Police Auditor
Michael Gennaco



OIR

GROUP

323-821-0586
7142 Trask Avenue | Playa del Rey, CA 90293
OIRGroup.com

Factual Background

This complaint alleged that DPD officers were failing to activate body-worn cameras as required by policy. This surmise stemmed from the filing by the complainant of Public Records Act requests for such footage. Some of DPD's responses to those requests indicated that there was no body worn camera footage available, causing the complainant to deduce that officers were not activating their body worn cameras at the appropriate times.

The complainant has a history of filing concerns about law enforcement responses with DPD, the Independent Police Auditor, and elected officials. The gravity of those concerns has been that police officers follow the complainant around to harass him. A second complaint stemmed from the complainant's concern about the way in which a 5150 evaluation was done but the complainant withdrew that complaint after it was made. None of those allegations have been proven, stymied significantly by the complainant's decision not to provide specific information about the concern.

The complainant has also reached out directly to the Chief regarding various concerns including his belief that his advocacy and appearance before officials in public settings is the reason for the harassment he has subsequently suffered. The Chief has responded to those concerns directly with the complainant.

DPD Investigation and Outcome

DPD reviewed the complaint and could not locate any evidence of failures on behalf of DPD officers to follow the activation policy regarding body-worn cameras. Accordingly, the complaint was closed without additional action being taken. The complainant was notified by letter of the results of the DPD review.

IPA Review and Analysis

The Independent Police Auditor (IPA) reviewed the materials relevant to this incident, including DPD Public Record Act responses and numerous email correspondence between DPD officials and the complainant. The IPA found that DPD's review was thorough based on the scant leads provided and we concurred that there was no basis to sustain the allegations submitted by the complainant.